

**February 2001**  
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**FOUNDING MEMBERS**

PACE has 319 founding members. A listing of founding members is enclosed, arranged by zip code to facilitate identification of all members in an area. Membership applications are being received regularly, but plans are being developed to increase membership. All PACE members are encouraged to invite new members from their departments and areas. A member application is attached.

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING**

The PACE Advisory Board has been renamed the Executive Board to reflect the importance of this function. A meeting has been scheduled for Saturday, April 7 at Baltimore/Washington Airport. Members are encouraged to submit any issues they deem important for Executive Board consideration, to the Executive Director; particularly pertaining to improved services to members, increasing membership, increasing departments requiring degrees for officers, and broadening the prominence/influences for PACE.

There are two membership changes in the Executive Board, Peggy Triplett will replace Robert Stewart as NOBLE representative. We are pleased to have a representative from the International Association of Chief of Police. Fifth Vice President Mary Ann Viverette, Chief at Gaithersburg Maryland is welcomed both as a PACE member and as a member of the Executive Board.

**LIAISON WITH ORGANIZATIONS**

Close cooperation has been maintained with IADLEST, including a meeting and several phone conversations with Don Hopkins, PACE liaison and Executive Director of the Maryland Police Land Correctional Training Commission. Issues discussed included issuing

national survey of educational status in departments through the respective State Post Commissions. He will present this issue to the Executive Board of IADLEST at their meeting at the end of February.

PACE designed the survey and has agreed to do the national analysis and report preparation after each State POST gathers the response for their respective departments.

The "open letter" to the Congress and Attorney General supporting Federal funds for tuition reimbursement for in-service officers to attend college will also be presented to the IADLEST meeting by Don Hopkins. With the Federal elections complete and a new Congress, it is timely to develop a strategy to effectively present this letter, which was developed by mutli-agency ask force.

**POSSIBLE TUITION FUNDS**

Frequently officers contact PACE seeking funds to pay college tuition. One possible source is EdPlusLLC. This is a company which searches public and private sources for scholarship funds for a small fee which has been recommended. It can be contacted at [EdPlus@aol.com](mailto:EdPlus@aol.com) telephone (703)897-8257 EdPlus has offered a donation to PACE and will give a 20% discount (from \$49.94 to \$39.94), plus shipping and handling) for PACE member inquiries, including inquiries to assist other officers. There are other similar organization that can be located on the web. Officers desiring to continue college education are urged to seek these funds, until and unless Federal funds are available.

**RECOGNITION OF DEPARTMENTS REQUIRING DEGREES**

Letters are being sent to the chief of each deartpment which requires a four-year degree, by policy or practice, for entering officers. These letters announce that PACE would like to visit their department and present a

certificate of professional accomplishment for their educational standards at a press conference. Sample certificate is attached to this Newsletter. (Presentation will be enlarged and framed). Such a press conference will not only recognize that department's accomplishments, but hopefully encourage surrounding departments to act similarly. It will also assist the departments to oppose pressures to eliminate the college degree requirement. This will also give prominent attention to PACE from the many press conferences across the Nation. Departments will be clustered geographically in order to conserve travel funds.

## **LAW ENFORCEMENT TELEVISION NETWORK**

Based on a contact established at the IACP Conference, discussions have been initiated towards an LETN production about PACE. It is hoped to accomplish this within the next few months. This could be an important step in acquainting officers and departments with the importance of college degrees, as well as increase the visibility of PACE.

## **WEB PAGE**

As a result of contacting departments for the current chief's name, it was found that some departments listed on the web page do not require degrees for officers. These departments have been deleted. Hot links have been established for all departments requiring degrees to their respective web pages, if they exist.

## **STATE LIAISONS**

Florida CORECTION. The last Newsletter stated that Florida would have a State standard of two-years of college for entering officers effective 2003. This is partially incorrect. This standard is proposed for legislation this session of the Florida Legislature. PACE has held

discussion on how assistance can be provided to facilitate this legislation.

California Coordination efforts are continuing with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department in their effort to pass State legislation for tuition reimbursement for in-service officers to attend college. Both the Speaker of the Assembly and a State Senator have agreed to sponsor this legislation. PACE is assisting through furnishing documents, telephone conferences, and arranging for testimony before committees.

New Jersey Efforts were unsuccessful in New Jersey to get the State Civil Service Commission to permit college education requirements. Most cities in New Jersey have officer examinations conducted by the State Civil Service Commission. Some cities set their own requirements and testing and several of these require college degrees for entering officers.

Ft Lee, New Jersey operates under the State Civil Service Commission and wanted to include a college degree in their selection criteria, but State Civil Service refused. Ft. Lee asked for assistance from PACE. Using a personal contact, inquiry was made with New Jersey Attorney General's Office. The Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Service Commission was adamant that no college degree requirements would be permitted. It remains to be explored the potential for Ft. Lee to opt out of the State Civil Service Process.

Washington Linkage was accomplished between the Washington State POST Commission and efforts to pass State legislation supporting college requirements for officers.

## **OTHER ACTIVITIES BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

At the IACP conference in San Diego, a booth was rented and over 1,500 PACE seven-page information packets were handed to chiefs as they passed the booth. Notification was received of several additional departments having four-year degree requirements; including Redlands and Costa Mesa California, Michigan State Police, Michigan State University Police, Illinois State Police, Palentine and Naperville, Illinois, and Gaston County, North Carolina.

Invitation was accepted for brief remarks to the IADLEST meeting at the San Diego ICP Conference. Appreciation was expressed for the continuing close liaison between PACE and IADLEST. Press inquiries frequently do not directly involve college requirements, but are answered as completely as possible with an addition concerning the mission of PACE. Recent inquiries have included the San Francisco Chronicle, and the (Portland) Oregonian.

PACE information packets have been sent in quantities to Southern Police Institute, Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, and Dr. Gene Stephens for use in his police executive training programs at the University of South Carolina.

Members are urged to identify similar opportunities to promote PACE and to request supplies of PACE material for distribution.

Numerous inquiries are received from students doing research papers on college requirements for police. However, shortage of time precludes responding to high school inquiries. College inquiries are responded with the request that a copy of the resulting paper be furnished to PACE for the resource library. When major research papers are received, they will be abstracted for this Newsletter.

Plans are being finalized for PACE to be prominent at the meeting of the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences in Washington, DC, April 3-6 particularly for the Police Section.